

**STATE OF ILLINOIS  
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**

Meeting of the Commission  
January 27, 2016  
10:30 a.m.

James R. Thompson Center  
Murdock Room - IDHS  
Suite 5-300  
100 West Randolph Street  
Chicago, IL 60601

and

Lincoln Land Training Center  
130 W. Mason Street  
Room 104  
Springfield, Illinois

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT:**

**Commissioners**

In Chicago

Chair Rose Mary Bombela-Tobias (via telephone)  
Duke Alden  
Michael Bigger  
Robert A. Cantone  
Hamilton Chang  
Terry Cosgrove  
Nabi Fakroddin  
Lauren Beth Gash  
Hermene Hartman  
Steve Kim  
Diane M. Viverito  
Patricia Bakalis Yadgir

In Springfield

None

Absent

None

**Staff**

LaNade Bridges  
Michael Evans

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Donyelle L. Gray  
Evelio Mora  
Christine M. Welninski

**Members of Public:** None

**NOTICE:**

Public and closed meetings of the Illinois Human Rights Commission are audio recorded.

**I. Call to Order**

On January 27, 2016 at 10:32 a.m., Vice Chair Nabi Fakhroddin called to order a meeting of the Illinois Human Rights Commission.

Pursuant to the Illinois Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120/1 et seq., it was determined that:

- 1) A quorum of the public body was present at the meeting.
- 2) Prior to the meeting, Chair Bombela-Tobias gave notice to the General Counsel and Secretary of the Public Body, Donyelle Gray that she would not be able to be physically present for the January 27, 2016 meeting and requested to participate via telephone. Motion to allow Chair Bombela-Tobias to participate via made by Commissioner Alden, seconded by Commissioner Cantone. Motion carried 8-0
- 3) Commissioners Chang, Hartman, and Kim arrived shortly after roll call.

**II. Consideration of Minutes**

December 16, 2015

The Commission voted to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2015 meeting as submitted by staff. Motion to approve the December 16, 2015 minutes as submitted by staff made by Commissioner Cosgrove and seconded by Commissioner Yadgir. Motion carried 11-0.

**III. Chair's Report**

*Rose Mary Bombela-Tobias, Chair*

Chair Bombela-Tobias thanked the Commission's holiday party committee for a successful holiday party.

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Chair Bombela-Tobias announced that Executive Director N. Keith Chambers was attending the State of the State address in Springfield on today's date.

Chair Bombela-Tobias reported that she attended a meeting with Bobbie Wanzo of the Illinois Department of Human Rights to discuss the Commission's caseload.

**IV. Staff Reports**

*A. N. Keith Chambers, Executive Director*

Mr. Chambers was attending the State of the State address in Springfield and was unable to attend the January 27, 2016 meeting.

*B. Dr. Ewa I. Ewa, Chief Fiscal Officer*

Dr. Ewa was out of the country and unable to attend the January 27, 2016 meeting.

*C. Michael J. Evans, Chief Administrative Law Judge*

Chief Administrative Law Judge Evans gave the report for the month of December, 2015.

*D. Donyelle Gray, General Counsel*

Ms. Gray gave general reminders to the Commissioners concerning ethics training and statements of economic interest.

Ms. Gray distributed the yearly Freedom of Information Act report for the Commission.

Ms. Gray distributed the General Counsel Section's caseload report.

Ms. Gray reported that Assistant General Counsels Evelio Mora and Byron Wardlaw would be attending the Midwest Public Law Career Conference at Northwestern Law School on February 6, 2016.

Ms. Gray distributed a recent news article. The article concerns the Hobby Lobby case that is currently pending before the Commission.

Lastly, Ms. Gray distributed current Employment Law updates.

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**V. New Business**

*Motion for Leave to File Response to Respondent's Application for Rehearing*

*Clint Towers v. MIFAB, Inc.*

Charge No.: 2007CF1361

ALS No.: 08-0428

The Commission voted to deny the Complainant's Motion. Motion to deny the Complainant's Motion made by Commissioner Gash and seconded by Commissioner Hamilton. Motion carried 12-0.

**VI. New Business**

None

**VII. Old Business**

None

**VIII. Public Comment**

Pursuant to the Illinois Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120/1 et seq., the meeting was open for public comment

None

**IX. Executive Session**

Executive Session

None

**X. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:51 a.m. Motion made by Commissioner Alden, seconded by Commissioner Gash. Motion carried 12-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Donyelle L. Gray  
General Counsel